

Message Text

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42

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 ACDA-05 MC-02 /055 W

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O R 221255Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1467

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

USIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 1121

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IN, PK, US, AF

SUBJ: PRESS COVERAGE ON POSSIBLE RESUMPTION OF US ARMS
SALES IN SUBCONTINENT

REF: A) NEW DELHI 2472 B) KABUL 0837

1. WE BELIEVE IT POSSIBLE THAT RADIO KABUL REPORT CARRIED
IN INDIAN MEDIA BASED ON FEB 20 GOVERNMENT DAILY JUMHORIAT
EDITORIAL WHICH SAID INTER ALIA, QUOTE WE PROFOUNDLY HOPE AND
BELIEVE THAT AMERICAN WITH ITS FORESIGHT, POLITICAL UNDER-
STANDING AND INTEREST IN PEACE WILL ASSESS PAKISTAN'S
CLAMORS ABOUT BEING THREATENED FROM OUTSIDE, NAMELY FROM
AFGHANISTAN SIDE, WITH DISCRETION AND REALISM AND PAKISTAN
SHOULD NOT GET ARMS AT THE EXPENSE OF REGIONAL AS WELL
AS WORLD PEACE AND SECURITY. UNQUOTE.

2. ON FEBRUARY 22 PAO SOUGHT CLARIFICATION OF MINISTRY OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS (MFA) DIRECTOR GENERAL OF INFORMATION FARHANG. DRAWING
CAREFUL DISTINCTION BETWEEN OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN
AND JUMHORRIAT, FARHANG SAID EDITORIAL WAS EXPRESSION OF
CONCERN BY KNOWLEDGEABLE MEMBERS OF PRESS AND DID NOT
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COMPRISE OFFICIAL AFGHAN GOVERNMENT (GOA) STATEMENT.

3. FARHANG EMPHASIZED ANY CHANGES GOA VIEWS ON LIFTING OF ARMS EMBARGO WOULD BE TRANSMITTED THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS AND NOT VIA MEDIA.

4. IT WAS STRESSED TO FARHANG THAT SINCE ALL MEDIA UNDER CLOSE GOVERNMENT SUPERVISION, DISTINCTION HE DREW WAS VERY FINE ONE. FURTHER IT EMBASSY WISH TO UNDERSTAND CLEARLY MESSAGES WE RECEIVING FROM GOA AND WE DID NOT SEE HOW WE COULD IGNORE VIEWS GIVEN PUBLIC EXPRESSION IN MEDIA.

5. FARHANG SAID GOA VIEWS WERE SAME AS THOSE EXPRESSED TO AMBASSADOR FEBRUARY 8 -- I.E, AFGHANS HAVE CONFIDENCE IN SECRETARY KISSINGER AND THREE PRINCIPLES DR KISSINGER HAD INDICATED WOULD BE GUIDEPOSTS ON THE PAK ARMS QUESTION.
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Message Attributes

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